Claims:

1. A circuit (10, 30) for providing test and/or monitoring access to at least two telecommunication lines (18), comprising at least one bus (12) and at least two primary branches (14) extending there from, at least one of the primary branches (14) being provided with at least one switch (26, 34), which in a first state connects the primary branch (14) with the bus (12) and in a second state connect the primary branch (14) with ground.

2. The circuit in accordance with claim 1 wherein at least one primary branch (14) comprises at least two secondary branches (20), at least one of the secondary branches (20) being provided with a switch (24), which, in a first state, connects the secondary branch (20) with the primary branch (14).

3. The circuit in accordance with claim 1 or 2 comprising at least two buses (12a, 12b), at least one of the primary branches being constituted by at least two sub-branches (14a, 14b), each of these sub-branches (14a, 14b) being connected with one bus (12a, 12b), and least one switch (28) being provided for connecting a telecommunication line (18) with a selected one of the buses (12a, 12b).

4. The circuit in accordance with any of the preceding claims wherein at least one switch is a relay (26, 22, 28).

5. The circuit in accordance with any of the preceding claims wherein at least one switch (26, 22, 28) is remotely controllable.

6. A system comprising at least one circuit in accordance with any of the preceding claims and at least one test and/or measurement device.

7. A method of providing test and/or monitoring access to a telecommunication line (18), the method involving a circuit (10, 30) comprising at least one bus (12) and at least two primary branches (14) extending from the bus (12) to a telecommunication line (18) each, the primary branches (14) being, in an initial state, connected with ground, the method comprising the step of connecting only that primary branch (14), through which access to a telecommunication line 18 is to be established, with the bus (12).

8. The method in accordance with claim 7 wherein at least one primary branch (14) comprises at least two secondary branches (20), the secondary branches (20) being, in an initial state, disconnected from the primary branch (14), the method comprising the step of connecting only that secondary branch (20), through which access to a telecommunication line is to be established, with the primary branch (14).

9. The method in accordance with claim 7 or 8 wherein at least one switch (26, 22) is remotely controlled.

10. The method in accordance with one of claims 6 to 9 wherein the test serves to locate an open line.

11. The method in accordance with one of claims 6 to 9 wherein the test serves to measure physical parameters, such as voltage, frequency-dependent voltage, or interfering voltages.

12. The method in accordance with one of claims 6 to 9 wherein the test serves to measure a response of the line to specific, emitted signals.

13. A method of retro-fitting an existing test and/or monitoring system, comprising the steps of:

a) disconnecting at least one existing circuit for providing test and/or monitoring access, and

b) connecting at least one circuit for providing test and/or monitoring access in accordance with one of claims 1 to 5.

14. The method in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of retro-fitting the existing test and/or monitoring system with at least one test and/or measurement device.